

Remarks**1. Amendment to the Specification**

Applicants have again amended the paragraph setting out the Cross-Reference to Related Applications. This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to two lines of co-pending applications. The co-pending applications have common inventors, Mink and Goldstein. This application now claims continuation-in-part status from U.S. Application No. 09/280,269, filed March 29, 1999, and divisional status U.S. Application No. 09/292,293, filed April 15, 1999, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,303,081. This application also claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 from U.S. Provisional Application 60/079,952, filed March 30, 1998.

Upon filing, this application claimed divisional status from the parent '293 application and priority to the '952 provisional application. Applicants previously amended the cross-reference to related applications to remove reference to the '952 provisional application. The '293 parent application was filed over twelve months after the '952 provisional application.

The '269 application, filed March 29, 1999, names common inventors (Mink and Goldstein) and was co-pending with this application at the time it was filed on October 11, 2001 and discloses essentially the same subject matter. Filed within the '269 application claims priority to the '952 provisional application. As discussed below, applicants are submitting a new declaration reflecting the priority claims through the '269 application. A petition for acceptance of late claim for priority under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 also accompanies this proposed amendment.

2. The Request to Correct Inventorship under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48

Applicants also submit with this proposed Amendment, a Request to Correct Inventorship under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48 adding Robert C. Bohannon as a co-inventor. Mr. Bohannon, along with Mr. Mink and Mr. Goldstein, is a named inventor of the '269 application. The documents required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48 accompany the request. The Declaration has been signed by Mr. Bohannon. Applicants will submit the Declaration with the remaining signatures upon receipt.


3. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment to the specification and correction of inventorship in this application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2380. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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